

A N N U A L R E P O R T F O R

1950

to

T H E E V E S H A M B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

by

J. J. M U R R A Y , M . B . , D . P . H .

(District Medical Officer of Health)



REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR, 1950.

Mr. Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Nightingale and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report on the health of your District for the year 1950.

VITAL STATISTICS:

Registrar-General's population estimate - 11,860.

BIRTHS:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	86	99	185
Illegitimate	4	4	8
	90	103	193

STILL-BIRTHS:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 16.3 ^{194.9} 16.

Still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births NIL 24.5

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>DEATHS:</u>	101	80	181

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 15.3 12.1

Deaths from Puerperal causes:-

	<u>Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</u>	
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Deaths of Infants under one year	4	1	5	4
Deaths of legitimate infants	3	1	4	4
Deaths of illegitimate infants	1	-	1	-

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR:

All infants per 1,000 live births	26	20
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	22	21
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	125	NIL
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	32	19
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil	Nil

Comparison with some of the figures for the whole country is as follows:-

	<u>England and Wales.</u>	<u>District.</u>	<u>District</u>
	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1949.</u>
Birth Rate	15.8	16.3	16.8
Death Rate	11.6	15.3	12.1
Infant Mortality Rate	29.8	26.0	20.0

CAUSES OF DEATH TABLE FOR 1950.

<u>Cause of Death.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. T.B. of respiratory system	6	-	6
2. Other forms of T.B.	-	1	1
3. Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and para: dis:	-	-	-
10. Cancer of Stomach	4	2	6
11. " " Lungs	2	-	2
12. " " Breast	-	6	6
13. " " Uterus	-	1	1
14. " " (Lymph: and other types)	12	5	17
Total:	18	14	32
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous systems	17	13	30
18. Coronary Dis:, angina	8	10	18
19. Hyper-tension with heart dis:	-	1	1
20. Other heart dis:	21	12	33
21. " circulatory dis:	5	5	10
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	2	-	2
24. Bronchitis	4	-	4
25. Other dis: of res: system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyper-plasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill defined dis:	11	22	33
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4
34. Other accidental causes	5	1	6
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Other violent causes	-	-	-
TOTAL:	101	80	181

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Regional Hospital Board arrangements for the treatment of infectious diseases are functioning very satisfactorily and the ambulance system has also worked very well.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year sections of 2", 3" and 4" water mains were laid on to the Fairfield Housing Estate - Sites No. 4 and 5. A short length of 2" water main was laid to complete the supply to a private housing estate at Greenhill.

The quality of the Borough water continues to be quite satisfactory and the supply has been adequately maintained throughout the year.

Unfortunately, negotiations did not progress sufficiently for the protective rabbit and stock proof fencing at the Middle Hill and Brockhampton Springs to be erected in 1950, but it is hoped that the work will be commenced and completed in 1951.

Of the eleven samples of water obtained in the town and sent for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis, all proved satisfactory.

The new chlorinating equipment at the Broadway Reservoir was brought into action early in 1950 and regular tests at the reservoirs and in the town were carried out with satisfactory results.

There is no evidence of any plumbo-solvent tendency.

All houses in the Borough are supplied by piped water and no stand-pipes are in use for domestic supply.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The work of preparing the Specification, Bills of Quantity etc., for the proposed new Sewage Disposal Works is being pressed forward by the Town Council's Consulting Engineer with a view to application for Loan Consent for the work to be carried out. In the meantime the present Sewage Works must perforce be used, although a satisfactory effluent cannot be produced in view of their inability to deal with the volume of sewage at present reaching the works.

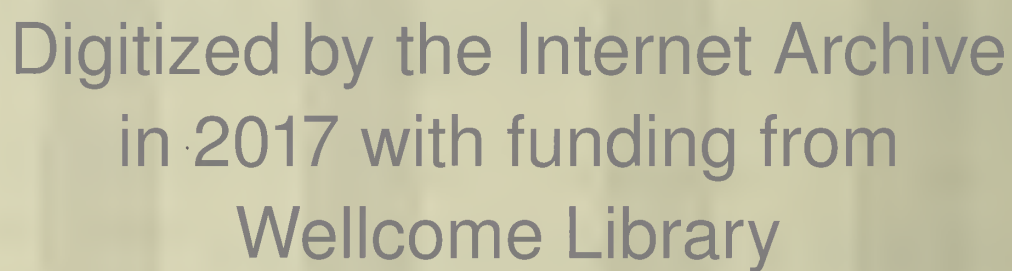
HOUSING.

The twenty-four permanent prefabricated houses and twenty-traditional houses begun in 1949 on the Peewit Road Housing Estate have now been completed.

In addition, the roads, sewers and water mains have been laid and the Housing Contractors have handed over ten houses on the Fairfield No. 3 Housing Site.

The roads, sewers and water mains have been laid at the Fairfield Housing Site No. 4 and the housing contractors have made a start on the erection of the houses. These should be completed towards the end of 1951.

On the Fairfield Housing Site No. 5 the works on the roads, sewers and water mains have been started.



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Four houses on the Elm Road Site were handed over by the Contractors before the end of the year. Total completed in 1950 = 62 houses.

During the year twelve houses have been erected by private enterprise.

Since the war 235 dwellings have been provided in the Borough by the Town Council, made up as follows:-

Traditional Houses	120
Maisonettes	12
Permanent Prefabricated houses	74
Temporary Prefabricated houses	29
	<u>235</u>

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Inspection of premises under the Food and Drugs and Public Health Acts are carried out under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and an additional Sanitary Inspector was appointed who took up his duties during the year.

There is also a full time Meat Inspector whose duties are chiefly concerned with the Bacon Factory and the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, this latter providing for approximately 80,000 people.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed	1719	733	742	7202	30325
Number inspected	1719	733	742	7202	30325
All diseases except T.B:					
Whole carcasses condemned	8	20	9	87	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	320	150	40	650	1100
Approx. percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	13%	20%	5%	9½%	3½%
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	20	Nil	Nil	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	250	210	Nil	Nil	1510
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	14%	28%	Nil	Nil	5%

Approximately 40 tons of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year.

Other foodstuffs found unfit and voluntarily surrendered were as follows:-

Tinned goods.	-	1670 tins.
Bottled goods.		247 bottles.
Other goods.		4700 lbs.

FOOD POISONING.

Two cases of suspected food poisoning were notified, the patients recovering in 24 hours. No pathogens were reported.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Icecream.

No. of premises registered	-	Manufacture & Sale	-	4
		Sale only	-	42

Eighty-three inspections were made and three informal notices requiring premises to be cleaned up were complied with.

Fifty samples were taken with the following results:-

Provisional Grade I	-	38
II	-	6
III	-	5
IV	-	1

Manufacture of Sausages, Potted, Pressed, Pickled and Preserved food.

No. of premises registered	-	15
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Twenty-one inspections were made and one notice was served to remedy structural defects in preparation room.

Food Shops and Cafe Kitchens:

Ninety-five inspections were made and six notices requiring structural repairs, supply of hot water and cleaning up were complied with.

Milk and Dairies:

No. of Purveyors	-	4
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Only designated milks were sold within the district.

No. of samples taken	-	38
Satisfactory	-	22
Unsatisfactory	-	1
Void	-	15

Shops and Offices:

Two notices requiring maintenance of sanitary accommodation and three notices for the provision of washing facilities for staff were complied with.

Camping Sites:

Three camping sites in use on the district accommodate above 600 persons during the season. About thirty huts and caravans were in permanent occupation.

All sites were visited frequently and found to be satisfactory.

Shack development in the district does not appear to be increasing but, due to the acute housing shortage, an increased number of caravans and chalets are in permanent occupation. These dwellings are, however, concentrated in two of the camping sites.

Swimming Baths:

The Common Road open air swimming bath is municipally owned. Water is mechanically filtered and chlorinated. Daily tests were carried out for chlorination efficiency and monthly bacteriological samples were satisfactory.

Smoke Nuisances:

Three complaints were dealt with informally, two nuisances were successfully abated and a third should be abated when new grit arresting plant is delivered.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Part I of the Act.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health:-

Premises	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspect-ions.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sec. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	11	6	2	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	91	27	4	-
(111) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	-	-	-	-
Total:-	102	33	6	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	4	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
Total:-	6	6	-	4	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Part VIII of the Act.

Outwork
(Sec.110 & 111)

During the year 3 Outworkers were employed in the
Borough on Glove Making. Working conditions were found to
be quite satisfactory.

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PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notified diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the
year, 1950.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever	8	2	-
Diphtheria	-	--	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	4	2	2
Dysentery	-	-	-
Measles	7	-	-
Whooping Cough	48	-	-
Erysipelas	6	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	6	6	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-
	81	10	2

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES
CASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE
YEAR, 1950

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	18	-	-	-	1	-
3 - 4 "	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	11	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 10 "	4	-	-	-	2	-	2	13	-	-	-	1	-
11 - 15 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
16 - 20 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
21 - 35 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
36 - 45 "	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
66 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
	8	-	-	-	4	-	7	48	6	-	-	6	2

DIPHTHERIA.

No cases were notified during the year.

WHOOPING COUGH & MEASLES

There was an increase over last year (26) in the number of Whooping Cough cases notified - these being mainly confined to the first half of 1950.

7 cases of Measles occurred during the year.

There were no deaths from either disease.

SCARLET FEVER

There were only 8 cases notified during the year as against 27 in 1949.

Two of the cases received hospital treatment but there were no deaths from the disease.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

6 cases were notified during the year.

The first case occurred during the last week of July, a girl aged 2 years. No source of infection could be ascertained.

The second case was that of a man aged 25 years who had returned home from his temporary residence in Birmingham with the disease already in being.

Four other cases occurred during the period 9th August to 12th September. As far as is known there was no evidence of any contact between them. All cases recovered, four of them with some slight degree of residual paralysis, the other two cases being free from any crippling defect.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION

The immunization of children against Diphtheria has been carried on actively during the year under the control of the Worcestershire County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives particulars of the 15 new cases of Tuberculosis (as against 12 in 1949), and of all deaths from the disease in the area during 1950.

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmon.</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmon.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 "	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	1
15 - 24 "	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 "	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 "	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 "	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
55 - 64 "	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	7	7	-	1	7	-	-	1

			<u>1949.</u>
Number of deaths from non-notified Tuberculosis	-	Nil	1
Total number of Tuberculosis deaths	-	8	8

As far as it can be evaluated the health standards in the Borough are quite satisfactory.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector and his staff for their assistance during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant
J. J. MURRAY
Medical Officer of Health.

